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REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-19 were pending in the present application, prior to this amendment. By this Amendment, claims 1-3, 6, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18 and 19 are amended. Claims 20-27 are added. Please cancel claims 9 and 12.

II. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 2, 3, 6, 10, 15, 16 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claims 2 and 15 are amended to recite "a cylinder" to obviate the antecedent basis rejection.

Claim 6 is amended to recite "about 50% and 100% of the maximum trigger engagement adjustment setting" to specify the value modified by the percentage values.

Claim 10 is amended to recite "the safety" to obviate the antecedent basis rejection.

Claim 16 is amended to recite "a desired preset setting" to obviate the antecedent basis rejection.

Claim 18 is amended to depend from claim 17 which recites a preset engagement setting value.

Claim 19 is amended to recite a variable engagement setting of 0.0101 inches.

In light of the above amendments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112.

III. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 3 and 10 were indicated as allowable if amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112. Claims 9 and 12-14 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise indicated as including allowable subject matter.

By this amendment, claim 1 is amended to include the subject matter of claim 9, rendering claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom allowable. Claim 3 is rewritten in

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independent form and is therefore allowable. Claim 11 is amended to include the subject matter of claim 12, rendering claim 11 and the claims dependent therefrom allowable.

Applicants therefore assert that all previously pending claims are allowable as indicated by the Examiner, and that all outstanding rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 should be withdrawn.

IV. NEW CLAIMS

New claims 20-27 are added by this amendment. Support for new claims 20-27 can be found from line 22 of page 3 of the application to line 6 of page 4, from line 22 of page 5 to line 10 of page 6, and from line 5 of page 7 to line 6 of page 9. Support for new claims 20-27 may be found in other locations in the specification, including the Figures.

New claim 20 recites a method by which the engagement between a trigger and a sear is adjustable by sequential adjustment of an adjustment sleeve to provide "a first engagement of the trigger with the sear" and adjustment of an adjustable engagement element to provide "a second engagement of the trigger with the sear."

U.S. Patent No. 2,126,076 to *Wright et al.* discloses a trigger mechanism having a set screw 21 that adjusts the point of engagement 9 of a sear 7 with a trigger 3. U.S. Patent No. 2,557,415 to *Dayton* discloses an adjusting screw that determines the amount of movement of a sear release bar 8 away from a sear 5. Neither *Wright* nor *Dayton* disclose an engagement sleeve and an adjustable engagement element that provide separate engagement settings between a trigger and sear.

U.S. Patent No. 6,073,380 to *Hauser et al.* discloses set screws 58, 59 mounted in bushings 56, 57 that block the range of pivoting motion of a trigger 16. *Hauser's* bushings 56, 57 are not, however, used to obtain an adjustment setting. Instead, the bushings 56, 57 merely serve as mounting members for their respective set screws 58, 59. *Hauser* therefore fails to cure the deficiencies of *Wright* and *Dayton* in disclosing the invention recited in claim 20.

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CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action mailed June 21, 2005, and is believed to place all claims in the application in condition for allowance. Such action is courteously solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are any issues that can be resolved by telephone conference, or if there are any informalities that may be addressed by an Examiner's amendment, please contact the undersigned at (404) 879-2443.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 09-0528.

Respectfully submitted,



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